Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE dersons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

ED EXAMINATION (RCE) RANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

(Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

Application Number	09/033,585
Filing Date	March 3, 1998
First Named Inventor	TAKEYUKI NAGASHIMA
Group Art Unit	2624
Examiner Name	K. Y. Poon
Attorney Docket Number	00862.002213.

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865

Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _______(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ii. iii. Other Enclosed Lx Amendment/Reply 10/05/2004 HALI11 00000079 09033585 ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Information Disciosure Statement (IDS) iii. 770.00 OP 01 FC:1801 İ٧. Other 2. Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. Fees The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) i. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) ii. iii. Other Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 is enclosed Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED 29,296 Name (Print/Type) Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) September 28, 2004 Signature Date CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date

September 28, 2004

Name (Print/Type)

Signature

Leonard P. Diana